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AUTHORITY

OAG D/A ltr, 29 Apr 1980

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DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
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WASHINGTON, D.C. 20310

IN REPLY REFER TO

AGDA (M) (1 Dec 69) FOR OT UT 693255

4 December 1969

SUBJECT: Operational Report - Lessons Learned, Headquarters, 27th Transportation Battalion, Period Ending 31 July 1969

SEE DISTRIBUTION

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2. Information contained in this report is provided to insure appropriate benefits in the future from lessons learned during current operations and may be adapted for use in developing training material.

BY ORDER OF THE SECRETARY OF THE ARMY:

Kenneth G. Wickham

KENNETH G. WICKHAM
Major General, USA
The Adjutant General

1 Incl
as

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27th Transportation Battalion~~

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS, 27TH TRANSPORTATION BATTALION
APO 96226

AVCA QN TG 27 OP

1 August 1969

SUBJECT: Operational Report of the 27th Transportation Battalion (Truck)
for the Period Ending 31 July 1969 RCS CSFOR-65 (R-1)

THRU: Commanding Officer, 5th Transportation Group, ATTN: S3, APO 96226

Commanding General, US Army Support Command, QN, ATTN: AVCA QN-GO-O
APO 96238

Commanding General, 1st Logistical Command, ATTN: AVCA-GO-L, APO 96334

TO: Commanding General, United States Army Vietnam, ATTN: AVEGC-DST,
APO 96375

Commander-in-Chief, United States Army Pacific, ATTN: GPOP-DT,
APO 96553

Assistant Chief of Staff for Force Development, Department of the
Army, Washington, D. C., 20310

SECTION I
OPERATIONS: SIGNIFICANT ACTIVITIES

1. Command:

a. The 27th Transportation Battalion continued to support tactical and direct support operations as well as local and line haul operations. During the 92 day reporting period the battalion moved 133,086 short tons and 4,085,000 gallons POL while traveling 1,767,356 miles.

b. During the quarter the following changes in command positions took place. On 10 June 1969 CPT Robin Perry assumed command of the 444th Transportation Company. On 3 July 1969 1LT Fred Lepard assumed command of the 597th Transportation Company and on 23 July 1969 1LT Terry Miller assumed command of the same company. On 5 July 1969 1LT Steven Welch assumed command of the 2nd Transportation Company and on 24 July 1969 1LT Robert Farley assumed command of the same unit. On 25 May 1969 CPT Robert Jones assumed command of the 80th Transportation Company.

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693255

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AVCA QN TG 27 OP

1 August 1969

SUBJECT: Operational Report of the 27th Transportation Battalion (Truck)
for the Period Ending 31 July 1969 PCS CSFMR-69 (R-1)

2. Personnel, Administration, Morale and Discipline:

a. The Battalion's strength remained at a numerically acceptable level during the reporting period. Shortages in MOS 64A/64B exceed 90. Strength of cooks MOS 94B20 grade E5 is critical, authorized 8 and assigned 1. This command is short one WO, MOS 631A.

b. During the reporting period administration continued in a normal manner.

c. The morale and discipline remained high during this period. All units continued to make significant improvements in physical facilities.

3. Operations:

a. During the 92 day report period the 27th Transportation Battalion received 36 new 5 ton tractors and issued 18 to the 88th Transportation Company, 8 to the 444th Transportation Company, and 10 to the 597th Transportation Company. On 10 June 1969 an intensified POL operation began due to repairs/replacement of POL line from Qui Nhon to Pleiku. Over 4,085,000 gallons were hauled during the reporting period in addition to our normal line haul commitment.

b. During the past reporting period the percentage of vehicles committed has been very high. Of the vehicles available 94% were committed. This is extremely high in comparison to other comparable units in Vietnam.

c. Enemy activity in regard to ambushes has increased during the reporting period. Two ambushes occurred during the reporting period, one on 24 May 1969 resulting in no loss of life or loss of equipment (two EM wounded in action), the other on 3 June 1969 once again resulting in no loss of life or equipment (one EM wounded in action). Enemy sniper incidents have remained high. A total of eight sniper and mortar incidents occurred on 8 June 1969, 8 June 1969, 13 June 1969, 14 June 1969, 24 June 1969, 28 June 1969, 14 July 1969, and 16 July 1969. It has been determined that the increased training program concerning convoy deployment and composition of security vehicles, known as the Ludy Concept, has deprived the enemy of prime targets to be ambushed.

4. Training:

a. During the 92 day reporting period this battalion has continued to conduct training in accordance with the Army Subject Schedule at night when most personnel are available. Additional emphasis has been placed on subjects pertaining to convoy operations.

b. OJT training is being conducted in the POI (Program of Instruction) format specified by US-SUPCOM, Qui Nhon.

c. Special subjects such as "Sapper Attacks" and "Claymore Mines" have been implemented into the companies orientations for both new and old personnel. Mandatory monthly training and daily briefings are also given on these subjects.

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AVCA ON TG 27 OF

1 August 1969

SUBJECT: Operational Report of the 27th Transportation Battalion (Truck)
for the Period Ending 31 July 1969 PCS CSFOR-65 (R-1)

d. Many of the replacement drivers assigned arrive without driver qualifications record (DA Form 348). This placed an additional retraining requirement upon the units thereby increasing the in-processing time for the new personnel.

e. Organic weapons monthly familiarization held at company level.

5. Intelligence and Security:

a. During the reporting period 7 search lights have been installed on the perimeter as an extra security precaution.

b. The compounds within Sub Complex Charlie I are located at the base of a mountain. This is undesirable as it affords the enemy an excellent opportunity to observe and engage the units from an elevated position. Defoliation by air of the base of this mountain would allow much better observation. Large rocks and cliffs however make it very difficult to perform this mission by land means. At present this unit has requested appropriate action with negative results.

c. The Sub Complex Charlie has been hand receipted two AN/PVS-3 Telescopes (Last Reporting Period) which have been inoperative for the last 23 days due to lack of batteries. Red Ball Request Expedite has been forwarded thru appropriate channels being passed to CONUS for fill. Follow up action has been taken but to this date the batteries have not been received at this headquarters.

6. Logistics:

During the 92 day reporting period the 5 ton vehicles have been modified by the installation of armor plating on floor side of drivers cabs. This has increased protection for the drivers.

SECTION II

COMMANDERS' OBSERVATIONS, EVALUATIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Personnel: None
2. Operations: None
3. Training:

Item: Driver Training

Observation: Many of the replacement drivers arrived within the command without DA Form 348, Qualification Record. This necessitated driver retraining and retesting for those personnel, thus increasing the in-processing time.

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AVCA ON TG 27 OP

1 August 1969

SUBJECT: Operational Report of the 27th Transportation Battalion (Truck)
for the Period Ending 31 July 1969 RCS CSTOR-65 (R-1)

Evaluation: Had records been screened at POR Boards corrective action could have been taken to insure that replacements had in their possession proper driver qualification record (DA Form 348) prior to arriving in country. Such action could have shortened the period of time that these personnel were not available to perform their primary mission. Such additional re-testing and retraining is unrealistic and time consuming to perform in a combat zone.

Recommendation: That CONUS POR Boards screen all personnel records prior to departure to insure inclosure of DA Form 348 for overseas replacements, driver personnel. International Road Sign Test for personnel assigned overseas in driver MOS's should be accomplished at state side posts prior to movement overseas, thus cutting down the in-processing time in the combat zone.

4. Intelligence and Security: None

5. Logistics:

Item: Outstanding Requisitions

Observation: Outstanding requisitions on the depot system are not being released expeditiously as stock is made available on hand. Each unit presently has approximately 216 outstanding due outs.

Evaluation: If outstanding due outs were released to the requisitioners more storage area would be available; money would be saved in various ways such as limiting units missions, reducing pilferage, reducing water damage, reducing storage deterioration, and eliminating rewarehousing.

Recommendation: That Inventory Control Center and depots release stocks immediately to requisitioners to cut down on wasted time, supplies, labor, and help increase the efficiency of units in RVN.

Item: Contact Teams

Observation: Unit mid December 1968 the Support Maintenance Battalion had a contact team that provided excellent support for units within the Battalion. For example a clutch, transmission, engine, or brakes would go out on a vehicle. You then notified the contact team and the next morning the vehicle would be ready for the road.

Evaluation: Had this practice continued a more efficient utilization of vehicles would have prevailed.

Recommendation: That this system be put back into effect throughout RVN.

6. Organization: None

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1 August 1969

SUBJECT: Operational Report of the 27th Transportation Battalion (Truck)
for the Period Ending 31 July 1969 RCS CSFOR-65 (R-1)

7. Escape and Evasion: This organization has had no escape and evasion experience during the reporting period.

8. Other: None


WILLIAM C. FREEMAN
LTC, TC
Commanding

~~1 Incl~~

~~Organizational Chart~~

Incl wd HQ, DA

AVCA QN-TG-3 (10 Aug 69) 1st Ind
SUBJECT: Operational Report of the 27th Transportation Battalion (Truck)
for the Period Ending 31 July 1969 RCS CSFOR-65 (R-1)

DA, HQ, 8th Trans Gp (MT), APO 96226, 13 Aug 69

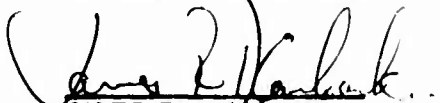
Commanding General, USASC, QN, ATTN: AVCA QN-GO-H, APO 96238

1. The Operational Report for the 27th Transportation Battalion (Truck) has been reviewed and the information contained therein is considered adequate.
2. The following comments are submitted:
 - a. Reference Section II, Operations. Concur with recommendation of unit.
 - b. Reference Section II, Logistics. Concur with recommendation of unit.

TEL: PT 785

GARLAND A. LUDY
Colonel, TC
Commanding

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JAMES R. MACHACEK
1LT, GS
Military History Division

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AVCA QN-GO-H (1 Aug 69) 2d Ind
SUBJECT: Operational Report of the 27th Transportation Battalion (Truck)
for the Period Ending 31 July 1969 RCS CSFOR-65 (R-1)

DA, HEADQUARTERS, US Army Support Command, Qui Nhon, APO 96238 15 SEP 1969

TO: Commanding General, 1st Logistical Command, ATTN: AVCA GO-O,
APO 96384

1. (FOUO) The Operational Report, Lessons Learned of the 27th Transportation Battalion for the quarterly period ending 31 July 1969 has been reviewed by this headquarters and the following comments are submitted:

a. SECTION II, paragraph 3: Concur. This item requires action by higher headquarters to inform pertinent organizations in CONUS of the problem.

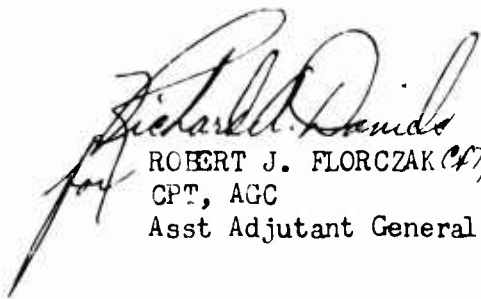
b. SECTION II, paragraph 5 (1st item): Concur. USAD, QN and the DSU/-GSU's publish a monthly status listing for customer units. A check of this listing will provide the unit with current status and information as to whether or not valid due outs have been established. If units have valid due outs for critical supplies, these can be placed on the Commander's Critical Items List (CCIL) so that action can be taken.

c. SECTION II, paragraph 5 (2d item): Concur. This procedure cannot be implemented at the present time, since personnel resources do not permit a dedicated contact team for this transportation battalion. The response of supporting maintenance units to the field maintenance requirements of the units supported is considered adequate. The proximity of the supported and supporting units (less than 5 miles) also tends to negate the contact team requirement. Contact team maintenance is being used in support of FSA's, LSA's, remote fire bases and special forces camps. No action is required by higher headquarters since the use of contact teams to perform on-site maintenance is adequately covered in current doctrine.

2. (U) This report is considered adequate as modified by the above comments.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

TEL: QN 2161


ROBERT J. FLORCZAK CPT, AGC
CPT, AGC
Asst Adjutant General

AVCA GO-MH (1 Aug 69) 3rd Ind

SUBJECT: Operational Report - Lessons Learned of the 27th Transportation Battalion for Period Ending 31 July 1969 RCS CSFOR-65 (R1) (U)

DA, Headquarters, 1st Logistical Command, APO 96384 18 OCT 1969

TO: Commanding General, United States Army, Vietnam, ATTN: AVHGC-DST, APO 96375.

1. The Operational Report - Lessons Learned submitted by Headquarters, 27th Transportation Battalion for the quarterly period ending 31 July 1969 is forwarded.

2. Pertinent comments follow: Reference item concerning Outstanding Requisitions, page 4, paragraph 5. Concur.

a. The release of dues-out upon receipt of stock in the depot is an automatic feature of 3SVN. The problem that prevents timely release of dues-out is the lag time in processing of receipts from storage to the stock control element for posting on the ABF. If the receipt is picked up in a timely manner, the same basic processing cycle will effect release of dues-out in order of priority and age within priority.

b. Items issue, control of which is held by the ICCV, are subject to the same procedures. The due-out is held on the due-out subsidiary file of the ICCV rather than on the file of the depot. The receipt of material by the depot must again be posted to the ICCV ABF before the due-out can be automatically released. The computer systems supporting the supply system in Vietnam work very efficiently in respect to release of dues-out; however the release can be no more timely than the posting of receipt documentation. The problem of supply discipline at the receiving function in the depot is the basis of the condition described. Its resolution lies in the training of depot personnel.

c. A system is presently being incorporated as an integral part of scheduled cycle processing which causes reactivation of backorders at each depot periodically for submission to the ICCV to be matched with assets in other command depots. This will preclude a backorder from remaining on one depots file while another depot has the stock.

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SUBJECT: Operational Report - Lessons Learned of the 27th Transportation
Battalion For Period Ending 31 July 1969 RCS CSFCK-65 (U)

3. Concur with the basic report as modified by this and previous indorsements.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

TEL: LBN 4839

Thomas P. Hylle 2 CT Hylle

1Lt. D. STAFFORD

1Lt, AGC

Asst Adjutant General

CF:

USASUPCOM QNH

8th Trans Gp

27th Trans Bn

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AVHGC-DST (1 Aug 69) 4th Ind

SUBJECT: Operational Report of the 27th Transportation Battalion (Truck)
for the Period Ending 31 July 1969, RCS CSFOR-65 (R1) (U)

HEADQUARTERS, UNITED STATES ARMY, VIETNAM, APO San Francisco 96375 1 NOV 1969

TO: Commander in Chief, United States Army, Pacific, ATTN: GROP-1T,
APO 96558

1. This headquarters has reviewed the Operational Report-Lessons Learned for the quarterly period ending 31 July 1969 from Headquarters, 27th Transportation Battalion (Truck).

2. Reference item concerning "Driver Training," section II, page 3, paragraph 3; concur. CONUS POR Boards are required to check each individual's 201 File for correctness and presence of all allied documents. If an individual has been qualified as a driver the POR Boards are required to insure that the DA Form 348 is present. Regardless of the qualifications listed on an individual's DA Form 348, he must be given additional training before being permitted to operate a vehicle in RVN. Recommend this item be forwarded by DA to CONARC for consideration and action if appropriate.

FOR THE COMMANDER:



RICHARD V. FULP

CPT, AGC

Assistant Adjutant General

Cy furn:
27th Trans Bn
1st Log Comd

GPOP-DT (1 Aug 69) 5th Ind
SUBJECT: Operational Report of HQ, 27th Transportation
Battalion (Truck) for Period Ending 31 July 1969,
RCS CSFOR-65 (R1)

HQ, US Army, Pacific, APO San Francisco 96558 7 NOV 69

TO: Assistant Chief of Staff for Force Development, Department
of the Army, Washington, D. C. 20310

This headquarters concurs in subject report as indorsed.

FOR THE COMMANDER IN CHIEF:



C. L. SHORTT
CPT, AGC
Asst AG

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CO, 27th Transportation Battalion			
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